



Our Mission:

To become a leading source in the United States for the promotion of national and international networking, exchange, and creative collaboration among scientists, scholars, artists, and other professionals, consistent with the goals of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany.

Our Vision:

To mobilize the intellectual curiosity, creativity, experience, and passion of Humboldtians to shape the changing landscape of research, higher education, and professional development in the United States and beyond.

Dear Humboldtians and Friends,

As we begin 2014, we at American Friends would like to thank the US alumni of the Humboldt Foundation and our other partners for helping to make 2013 a very productive year.

We are particularly grateful to the US Humboldtians and friends who responded to our special joint appeal in honor of the Humboldt Foundation's 60th anniversary. Your donations will allow the American Friends Board of Directors to make a generous contribution in support of the Foundation's efforts to engage younger scholars and scientists to sustain transatlantic research collaboration.

We are also pleased to announce the launch of the new American Friends website! With enhanced navigation and new content, and through expanded use of social media, we hope to keep you better informed about the accomplishments of US alumni and the sponsorship opportunities offered by the Humboldt Foundation. Please visit our site—and help us share news of your activities! Later this year, we look forward to launching the American Friends blog, which will feature contributions from alumni, partners, and American Friends on issues related to the globalization of research and its impact on knowledge production, careers, institutions and policy.

Finally, under the leadership of the American Friends Alumni Council, we are “relaunching” the Humboldtians on Campus (HoCs) program, so that these important volunteers will have better tools and information to inform and help recruit the next generation of Humboldtians. Look for more news on the important role of our “HoCs” on our website.

As always, we thank you for being a partner in our efforts to sustain and strengthen the Humboldt community in the United States and its connections to Germany.

Dr. Cathleen Fisher, President

Website Redesign 2014

American Friends is excited to announce the launch of its new website!

The new website features a modern design, increased functionality, and improved navigation—all intended to help drive users to the information they need more quickly and easily. Backed by a user-friendly content management system, the American Friends website will continue to grow and evolve to better meet the needs of US Humboldtians and others interested in sustaining US-German research and professional collaboration.

Here are just a few features you will enjoy on the new American Friends website:

- A cleaner design and stronger general navigation;
- Streamlined information with links to the websites of the Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) Foundation, our “Research in Germany” colleagues, and other partner organizations;
- Additional resources for people interested in doing research in Germany;
- Improved linkages to American Friends other online platforms—such as Facebook and Twitter—helping us to create a modern, online brand accessible to Humboldtians of all ages.

In the coming months, American Friends will be developing the following areas:

- Additional pages highlighting US alumni programs, news, accomplishments, and blog pieces;
- Expanded information on the Alumni Council and US “Humboldtians on Campus” and their activities;



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Website Redesign 2014 *(continued from p. 1)*

- Practical tips and information for US Humboldtians wishing to organize AvH Symposia (Kollegs) or other alumni activities;
- American Friends programs pages with information on initiatives related to the internationalization strategies of US universities and future US-German research exchange;
- A blog featuring contributions from alumni and other partners and focused on key issues related to the “Internationalization of Research” and “Science and Society”; and
- A calendar of AF events and promotional activities.

American Friends aims to make the website a leading resource for alumni and others interested in transatlantic and international research collaborations and networks, German American partnerships, and the major challenges facing research and higher education. American Friends is particularly interested in contributions from Humboldtians, and invites alumni to share their thoughts and experiences, and to keep American Friends informed about important alumni milestones and accomplishments. The new website will promote American Friends and Humboldt Foundation programs and help American Friends stay connected to alumni in new and innovative ways.

Please view our new website by visiting www.americanfriends-of-avh.org today!

2013 William M. Calder III Fellows

American Friends is pleased to announce the recipients of the William M. Calder III Fellowship. The 2013 Fellows are Dr. Therese Cory, Dr. Lawrence Kim, and Dr. Claas Lattmann.

Each year, the William M. Calder III Fellowship is awarded to a young, highly qualified German Feodor Lynen Fellow or US Humboldt Research Fellow to pursue research related to classical antiquity or to its reception in medieval and modern times. The Calder Fellowship provides additional financial support for the awardees' scholarship and may include a research allowance for the host for research expenses directly related to the fellow's research, including for research materials or a workshop related to the fellow's research. Since 2004, nine prestigious William M. Calder III Fellowships have been awarded to support projects exploring such diverse topics as literary techniques in Greek historical narratives, Greek cultural identity in the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman Imperial Period, religious conflicts of the late Greco-Roman antiquity, and ancient Platonism.

Therese Scarpelli Cory

Therese Scarpelli Cory's research focuses on medieval theories of cognition, with special interest in how thirteenth-century thinkers such as Thomas Aquinas developed unique approaches to the human mind by integrating Greek, Latin, and Islamic sources. She studied philosophy at the School of Philosophy in the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, earning her MA in 2007 and her PhD in 2009. From 2009–2010, she was a postdoctoral research fellow at Georgetown University's Martin Center for Medieval Philosophy in Washington, DC. Since 2010, she has been an assistant professor of philosophy at Seattle University. She is an active member of the “Aquinas and the Arabs” International Working Group.” Dr. Cory published her book, *Aquinas on Human Self-Knowledge*, in 2013, and her paper “Diachronically Unified Consciousness in Augustine and Aquinas” was awarded the 2011 Founder's Prize from the Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy. Dr. Cory will be hosted by Prof. Dag Nikolaus Hasse at the Universität Würzburg, to work on a book provisionally titled “To Know Is to Be: Aquinas's Metaphysics of Intellectual Being.”



Dr. Lawrence Kim

Lawrence Kim received a B.A. in Ancient Greek and Latin at Brown University and a Ph.D. in Classics from Princeton University. He has taught at the University of Washington, Seattle and the University of Texas at Austin, and is currently Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. His scholarly research focuses on the so-called ‘Second Sophistic,’

or the renaissance of Greek culture under the High Roman Empire (ca. 50–250 CE), with interests in narrative fiction, literary criticism, style, nostalgia, and the reception of classical literature. Recent publications include studies on time in the ancient novel, orality and popular narrative, Plutarch and historical fiction, Dio of Prusa's rhetorical style, and Imperial Atticism. His book, *Homer between History and Fiction in Imperial Greek Literature* (Cambridge, 2010), was awarded the 2011 Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit from the American Philological Association. His project for the Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers (2013–14) under the auspices of Prof. Dr. Jonas Grethlein in the Seminar für Klassische Philologie at the Universität Heidelberg, is a study of anti-classicizing elements (with a special focus on the idea of the ‘archaic’) in Imperial Greek thought.

Dr. Claas Lattmann

Claas Lattmann studied Greek Philology, Phonetics and Digital Speech Processing, and Computer Science at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, where he obtained his MA in 2004. Following additional studies of Latin Philology, he received his PhD in 2008. His main areas of scholarly interest are ancient Greek poetry and ancient philosophy and science. His thesis, *Das Gleiche im Verschiedenen. Metapher des Sports und Lob des Siegers in Pindars Epinikien* (De Gruyter, 2010), analyzes Pindar's odes of praise for victors at ancient sports games from a semiotic perspective and puts forward a new interpretation of these cryptic songs, which have been the subject of much controversy and discussion since antiquity. Since 2005, Lattmann has been working at the Department of Classics at the University of Kiel. From August 2013 until July 2015 Lattmann will be hosted by Professor Peter Bing in the Department of Classics at Emory University as a Feodor Lynen Fellow. Lattmann will finish his second book, a study that will provide new insights into Plato's epistemology and the dark history of pre-Euclidean mathematics by scrutinizing Plato's use and theory of mathematical models.



A special thank you goes out to all of our 2013 donors. Your generosity supports American Friends and the AvH community both in the US and abroad. Please look for a list of donors in the next issue of *Strata*!

Abbreviations

STP=Humboldt Research Fellowship	GWI=Research Award in the
USS=Humboldt Research Award	Humanities
Paul=Wolfgang Paul-Award	BUKA=German Chancellor
	Fellowship

German Chancellor Fellowship (BUKA) Program News

German Chancellor Fellows Triennial Alumni Meeting

The first triennial meeting of the US German Chancellor Fellows (“BUKAs”) was held in Washington, DC on October 25–27, 2013. The meeting attracted a record number of alumni, including participants from the inaugural “class,” recently selected fellows, and for the first time, fellows from China and Russia. The meeting, which was organized by a Steering Committee of US alumni and American Friends, showcased the fellows’ diverse talents and interests in a program featuring two moderated panel discussions, a site visit, a festive dinner with local Humboldtians, and an Art Salon.

The steering committee selected “technology transformation” as the central theme of the meeting, which also served as the US celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Over 70 BUKA alumni and their families traveled across the country and world to reunite with their former classmates, partake in the substantive program, and learn about BUKA program developments as well as new opportunities for alumni engagement.

Special guests **Dr. Enno Aufderheide**, Secretary General of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and **Dr. Damian Grasmueck**, the Program Director of Social Sciences from the Humboldt Foundation’s selection department, opened the meeting and shared news of the program’s expansion to India and Brazil. Representatives of the Russian, Chinese, and US alumni organizations discussed program developments in their respective countries and ideas for strengthening the global BUKA network.

The program continued with two alumni panels on “technology transformation,” the first examining technology’s impact on professional occupations and the workplace and the second, technology’s impact on higher education. The first panel explored how enhanced access to and the sharing of information is transforming the practices, standards, and foci of the traditional professions of law, medicine, and journalism and introducing new challenges and opportunities for business and national security. The second panel examined technology’s impact on research processes, professorial engagement with students, and residential instruction.

To demonstrate technological transformation in practice, American Friends Board member **Dr. Dale Medearis** (BUKA, 1994–1995) and special guest **Uwe Brandes** of Georgetown University’s Urban and Regional Planning Program led a site tour of “gray” and “green” water infrastructure in Washington, DC.

The full-day program ended with a celebratory banquet marking the 60th anniversary of the Humboldt Foundation and featuring the ambas-



BUKA Alumni meeting 2013 Washington DC

BUKA Program History

The German Chancellor Fellowship Program was introduced in 1990 under the patronage of Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl with the aim of promoting the transatlantic partnership between the Federal Republic of Germany and the USA. In 2002, the program was extended to the Russian Federation and in 2006 to the People’s Republic of China. This year marks the expansion of the program to Brazil and India.

sador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States, **Dr. Peter Ammon**, as the keynote speaker. Special guests at the banquet dinner included newly-appointed BUKA Program Ambassadors **Ambassador J.D. Bindenagel**, and **Dr. Jackson Janes** of the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies; local Humboldtians; and other members of the German-American community.

As the dinner drew to a close, guests were invited to view the visual and performance art of nine BUKA Alumni. This first-ever alumni Art Salon featured a wide range of artistic compositions, including typographic prints and illustrations, porcelain works, clay sculptures, cinematic presentations, documentation of public art works, and live music and dance performances.

For more information, including photographs and a detailed program description, please visit: <http://www.americanfriends-of-avh.org/buka-alumni-meeting-2013>.

Staff Changes at American Friends

In September 2013, American Friends bid farewell to **Margot Pfefferle**, who had served as the *Programs and Promotions Coordinator* since September 2010. In promoting the sponsorship opportunities of the AvH, Margot worked closely with American Friends’ professional partners, including colleagues at the AvH, scientific funding agencies, and partner institutions in the “Research in Germany” team,” an initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to “promote innovation and research in Germany.” During her time at American Friends, Margot spearheaded the organization’s transition to the digital world through the development and expansion of online advertising campaigns, the creation and maintenance of a coordinated social media platform, and initiation and coordination of a massive overhaul of the American Friends website. American Friends is grateful to Margot for her many

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Panel on Technology Transformations in Higher Education



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Staff Changes at American Friends *(continued from p. 3)*

contributions and wishes her success in her studies at Heidelberg University, where she is pursuing a Master of Arts in Transcultural Studies.

Stepping in to assume Margot's responsibilities is **Jessica Bell**, who has provided executive, Board, and office assistance at American Friends over the last year. In the newly titled position of "*Promotions and Digital Media Coordinator*," Jessica will continue to digitize and refine American Friends' media platforms and promotional efforts. With the launch of the new American Friends website in January 2014, a revamped social media campaign, and a focus on digital advertising, Jessica hopes to reach a wider range of researchers, students, and other potential applicants. Jessica continues to assist with the promotion of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation opportunities through independent and partnered efforts, as well as attending graduate school fairs and conferences. American Friends welcomes Jessica to her new position.



We are also pleased to introduce **Natalia Wobst** as the new *Director of Programs* at American Friends. Natalia joined the American Friends team in July 2013, where she is responsible for developing and implementing American Friends programs, including alumni activities, jointly sponsored events, and fund-raising initiatives.

From 2011–2013, Natalia coordinated the Atlantic Council's Energy and Economic Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, the Council's preeminent annual policy event promoting dialogue among over 350 political and business leaders in the broader Black Sea and Caspian regions. Prior to joining the Atlantic Council, she served as communications associate at

Eurasia Foundation. From 2008–2010, she administered Open World Leadership and Community Connections programs for delegates from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, and Russia with the Foundation for Russian American Economic Cooperation. She holds a B.A. in Russian and German and a minor in Journalism from Beloit College in Wisconsin, and an M.A. in Russian, Eastern European and Central Asian Studies from the University of Washington in Seattle. Raised in a German-American family in Massachusetts, Natalia studied at Eberhard-Karls Universität in Tübingen and received awards for excellence in German and outstanding accomplishments in foreign language study.

Rounding out the American Friends team is **Haley Armstrong**, the organization's new *Office Assistant*. Haley joined American Friends team in September 2013 after completing her B.A. in Government and German with a certificate in European Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. She brings office and event planning experience, as well as an interest in German culture and language to American Friends. Haley's professional experience ranges from working at George Brothers Kincaid & Horton LLP, a high-stakes commercial litigation and intellectual property law firm in Austin, to interning as a legislative associate with the Travis County Intergovernmental Relations office during the 2011 Texas Legislative Session. During college, Haley worked as a programming assistant at the UT Austin Student Events Center, where she helped organize large campus-wide events. In 2012, Haley studied abroad at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg. Prior to her junior year of high school, Haley spent a summer studying at a Gymnasium in southern Austria. American Friends is pleased to welcome Haley to American Friends.

